

Privacy: There are some things that you just can't have or do when you are a Member of Congress. For example, you can't spend many weekdays in your home state. Another thing you can't have much of is privacy. Much of your life and activities are necessarily public because the people who elect you have a right to know something about the person they are electing.

Well, this is one of those times when I feel it is incumbent upon me to share with you a medical procedure that I will be undergoing, probably as you are reading this.

I have had gastrointestinal issues since I had a bad bleeding ulcer at age 29. My stomach area is somewhat defective. In the last 8 years, I have struggled with an intestinal condition known as diverticulitis, and this condition has gotten considerably worse during the last 12 months. It is very curable, but only with surgery, in which they remove the defective part of your colon. On the advice of my doctors, I have decided to proceed with that surgery now. In car terms (I am ever the car guy after all), my muffler is bad and I'm going to be straight-piped.

Why is this something I think you should know? Because my doctors tell me that I may be out of commission for about a month, when accounting for hospital time and home recovery time. So, you may not get a laptop report from me for awhile. I will also not be in DC voting and attending hearings, and such, during that time either.

But be assured that I will be fine and will be back fighting for you with even more vigor than before once I get through this.

OK. Now the jokes can begin. Could it be these past 2 years with Nancy Pelosi as Speaker has caused such a pain in my stomach that it led to this? And I know that some of you have felt that I was full of it, but now I have medical evidence that you were correct. However, after this surgery, you will no longer be able to make that claim.

You can add your own jokes now.

So, amuse yourselves with Hugh Hewitt, Hannity, George Will, or whoever in the meantime. Lord willing, I will be back at you with more political discourse soon.

Until then, I remain respectfully,

Congressman John Campbell